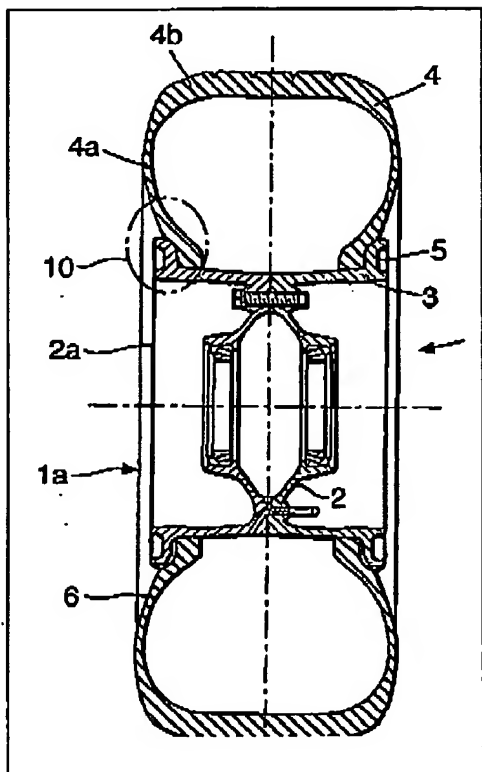


Notes for Examiner Michener

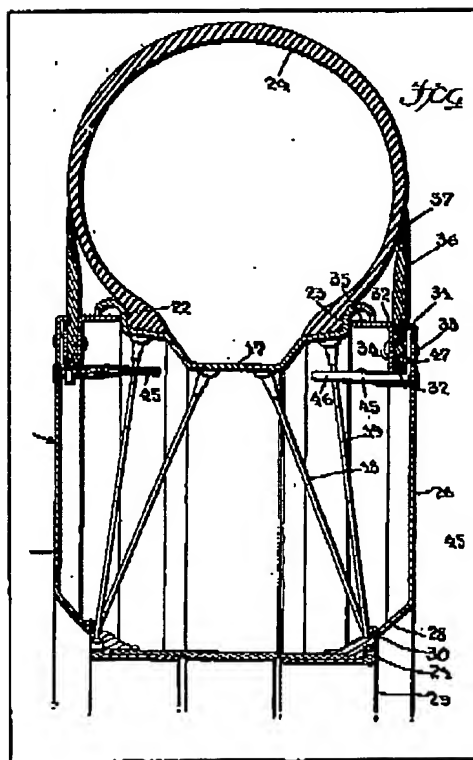
10/552,097 Landing gear assembly

2733.35WOUS

Present application



Roth



Roth does NOT include subsection (d) of claim 1, in fact this section does not appear to be addressed.

(d) on at least one side of the wheel during use of the aircraft when airborne and the landing gear is in a position ready for landing of the aircraft, the surface of the wheel/tire assembly presented to the airflow within the part bounded by the widest part of the tire is substantially smooth in shape.

Roth has a central opening 29 and a frustoconical disc section 28. It is not smooth across the wheel.

Claim 1 also requires:

(iii) a third surface

which extends between the first surface and the second surface and

which follows a notional surface that smoothly envelopes the wheel in the region of the junction between the tire and the wheel rim,

Roth has only the tip of the rubber lip in contact with the tire. No envelope of the wheel.

Also (i) The skilled person would not look to a fixed landing gear arrangement, as used in older or smaller aircraft, when considering how to improve the design of a retractable landing gear, as used on a modern commercial aircraft. Therefore, the skilled person would not think to combine Roth with a retractable landing gear.

(ii) The Roth document discloses a spoked wheel which is entirely different to that used on modern retractable landing gear. Significant structural change would be required to make the disclosure of Roth work on a modern deployable landing gear. This is because a modern landing gear would not have a spoked wheel.

(iii) Even if it was thought to use the rubber lip 36 of Roth, it is not obvious how such a rubber lip could be attached to the landing gears of Hartel and Labrecque. Neither document has an obvious location to attach the rubber lip. In Roth, the rubber lip 36 is secured in a channel member 32 and this channel member is secured to metallic disc 26 by rivets 38. However, neither of Hartel and Labrecque have any kind of disc provided on the side of the wheels that could be used to attach a rubber lip or channel member to.